

claims to independent or distinct inventions." In this case there is no serious burden on the examiner to examine all the groups of claims because the inventions of the different groups are so related that a search performed for any of the groups of claims would be sufficient for examining all the other groups of claims.

The claims are definite and distinguished from the citations and Applicant respectfully requests the allowance of all the claims.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to credit any overpayment or charge any fee (except the issue fee) including fees for any required extension of time, to Account No. 14-1270.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

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APPENDIX - Mark-Up Of Amended Portions Of The Specification

1. (amended) A method of manufacturing a circular optical storage disc, comprising: (10) having  
    providing a substrate (11) with a first surface (12) and a periphery; and (13), wherein  
    providing a coating on the first surface (12) is provided with a coating (15) by applying a liquid, rotating the substrate, and solidifying the liquid;  
characterized in that: and wherein:

- when applying the liquid onto the first surface (12), the substrate (11) is present in a separate extension body; (21, 31, 41)

the extension body having substantially circumferentially contact with the periphery (13) of the substrate; (11) and

the extension body having a surface (22) substantially flush with the first surface (12) of the substrate; (11), and

- after at least partial solidification of the liquid, the extension body (21, 31, 41) and the substrate (11) are separated.

2. (amended) AThe method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that wherein said extension body (21) has an outer periphery (23) which has a circular shape.

3. (amended) AThe method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that wherein said extension body (31) has an outer periphery (33) which has a polygonal shape.

4. (amended) AThe method as claimed in claim 3, characterized in that wherein said extension body (31) has an outer periphery (33) which has a regular polygonal shape.

5. (amended) AThe method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that wherein the surface (22, 32, 42) of the extension body (21, 31, 41) consists of substantially the same material as the substrate (11) of the optical storage disc (10).

6. (amended) AThe method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that wherein the surface (22, 32, 42) of the extension body (21, 31, 41) consists of a material to which the coating (15) adheres relatively poorly.

7. (amended) AThe method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that wherein said extension body (41) is composed of at least two parts (41a) with surfaces (42a) substantially flush with the first surface (12) of the substrate (11).

8. (amended) AThe method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that wherein the liquid is solidified by exposure to UV light.

9. (amended) A circular optical disc (10) manufactured by the method as ~~claimed in claim 1~~ characterized in that of:

providing a substrate with a first surface and a periphery;  
and

providing a coating on the first surface by applying a liquid, rotating the substrate, and solidifying the liquid; and  
wherein:

when applying the liquid onto the first surface, the substrate is present in a separate extension body;

the extension body having substantially circumferentially contact with the periphery of the substrate;

the extension body having a surface substantially flush with the first surface of the substrate;

after at least partial solidification of the liquid, the extension body and the substrate are separated; and

the substrate (11) is substantially free from optical birefringence in a few mm broad peripheral peripheral zone.